

9 May 2018

Councillor Vicki Howard
Central Ward Office
Shop 11, 31 Duncan Street
Fortitude Valley Qld 4006

Dear Councillor Howard,

Re: Brisbane School of Arts

Firstly, thank you for attending the launch of the Australian Heritage Festival at the Springhill Windmill and Reservoirs on the 18th April. It was a wonderful event and we were delighted to see you at the event.

As you know, the National Trust of Australia (Queensland) is Queensland's largest cultural heritage organisation. A member based charity, we provide strategic advocacy for the protection, conservation and celebration of Queensland's environmental, built and cultural heritage.

We have had enquiries from Brisbane residents expressing concern over the Brisbane School of Arts building (166 Ann Street, Brisbane), its state of conservation and its proposed future re-use. Indeed, our own strategic advisory committee, the Advocacy Committee, has similarly discussed their concerns about the state of this site.

The School of Arts, built in the 1860s, is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register, the Brisbane City Council's Heritage Schedule and our own National trust of Australia (Queensland) heritage register – a clear indication of the special place this significant building holds in the heart of the people of Brisbane.

This prominent Brisbane-based heritage site appears to be rapidly deteriorating and suffering from a lack of maintenance and subsequent lack of use – a sad situation for this significant building. We would not want to see this building relegated to the fate of “demolition by neglect.”



National Trust of Australia (Queensland) is dedicated to the protection, conservation and celebration of environmental, built and cultural heritage.

We would welcome advice from Council on:

- ✦ The current condition of the building;
- ✦ Recent maintenance works and proposed future maintenance and repair;
- ✦ The proposed future use of the building and how BCC intends to facilitate this use as quickly as possible.

We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with BCC on site to discuss these issues and identify areas where the National trust of Australia (Queensland) could assist with the conservation and re-use of the School of Arts.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Jane Alexander

Heritage Advocacy Adviser

